

Response to the Final Office Action**10/030,461****Remarks:**

Claims 1, 3-11, 14, and 17-22 are objected to because of informalities. The examiner's comments are appreciated. Applicant has therefore amended responsive thereto.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that there is a first supporting protrusion and a second supporting protrusion. This is with regard to the objections of claims 3 and 5 as further detailed below. Also, "the inner wall" has been replaced with, "the inner peripheral wall". Finally, "said joint" has been replaced with "said mortar grouting type joint". These amendments are for clarification purposes only, and are not therefore related to patentability.

Claim 3 has been amended as suggested by the examiner. As such, "an angle ridge line" has been replaced with "a ridge line" for consistency with claim 1. The current amendments of claim 1 now obviate the examiner's concerns with the language "the first supporting protrusion". Antecedent basis has been clarified in claim 1.

Relative to claim 5, the current amendments of claim 1 now obviate the examiner's concerns with the language "the first supporting protrusion". Antecedent basis has been clarified in claim 1.

Claim 6 has been amended to replace "thin walled members" with, "said thin walled members".

Claims 9-11 have each respectively been amended to replace "thin walled members" with, "said thin walled members".

Claim 13 has been amended to replace "an opening cover" with, "said opening cover".

Claim 14 has been amended to replace "thin walled members" with, "said thin walled members".

Claim 17 has been amended to replace "thin walled members" with, "said thin walled members".

Claim 18 has been amended to replace "member" with "members".

Response to the Final Office Action

10/030,461

Claim 19 has been amended to replace "thin walled members" with, "said thin walled members". With regard to line 10 and the language "thin-walled member", the examiner states that it should be replaced with "of the thin walled member". Applicant has amended to clarify the language as requested by the examiner, but the language is believed to be better stated as "of the thin walled members" given that line 9 refers to "thin walled members".

Claim 20 has been amended to replace "thin walled members" with, "said thin walled members".

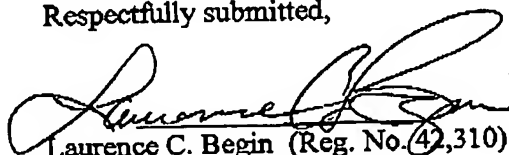
Claim 21 has been amended to replace "inner wall" with "inner peripheral wall".

Claim 22 has been amended to replace "thin walled member" with, "thin walled members".

Applicant has earnestly attempted to place the application in condition for allowance. All amendments have been made to clear up remaining issues without affecting the substance or merits of the claims. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.113(c), the response is meant to reconcile objections to form on otherwise allowable claims. Accordingly, Applicant courteously solicits entry of the amendments and passage of the subject application to issue. If the Applicant may be of any further assistance in the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (248) 889-5875. The Examiner's attention is directed to the correspondence change of address filed herewith and also reflected below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 2, 2004


Laurence C. Begin (Reg. No. 42,310)
L.C. Begin & Associates, PLLC
510 Highland Avenue PMB 403
Milford, MI 48381-1586
Phone: (248) 889-5875
Fax: (248) 887-7664